(c) and (d) No, Sir. There are divergent views on the issue of grant or recognition through Secret Ballot among the staff associations under JCM. Further, some of the associations have already been recognized through check-off system of verification and the process of recognition is underway in various Departments.

Demand and production of Petroleum

93. SHRI **RAMJI** LAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total annual demand for petroleum and petroleum products in the country;

(b) the production of petroleum and petroleum products in the country;

(c) the annual import of such products and the amount spent thereon; and

(d) the steps taken to achieve self sufficiency in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The demand for petroleum products during 1996-97 is estimated at 78.4 MMT.

(b)The production of petroleum and various petroleum products during 96-97 is estimated at 61.49 MMT.

(c) The quantity and value of imported products depends on the overall consumption, indigeneous production of crude oil and petroleum products and prices of petroleum products prevailing in the international market from time to time.

(d) With a view to achieve self-sufficiency in refinery the Govt, has permitted setting up of refineries in the joint sector and private sector. The Govt, has also offered medium and small sized fields to private/foreign parties for the production of crude oil under Production Sharing Contracts.

Diversification Programme of MFI

94. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:
SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Modern Food Industries has embarked upon a diversification Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of agreements made for cashewnut marketing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) and (b) The main activity of Modern Food Industries (India) Limited, (MFIL) is production of bread. However, MFIL undertook diversification programme and started production of items like energy food, cakes, extruded food, etc. Recently, it has started production and marketing of nutro and gluco biscuits. The Company has also undertaking marketing of cashewnuts.

(c) MFIL has entered into an agreement with M/s. Peirce Leslie Cashewnuts and Coffee Limited, for marketing of cashewnuts processed and packed by M/s. Peirce Leslie Cashewnuts and Coffee Limited, under their brand name "Royal Choice" w.e.f. 1.2.1995 for a period of 5 years. MFIL is an exclusive marketing agent for Kerala, Mahai (Pondicherry), Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The Commission to the Marketing agent, i.e. MFIL, in the first year was 3.5% of the ex-factory price of the product and for the subsequent years, it is 6%.

Nuclear Power Plans in a mess

95. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "India's N-Power Plan in a mess", as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 5th November, 1996;

(b) if so, whether country's nuclear power programmes is in a mess as alleged by an expert; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government do not subscribe to the view expressed in the news-paper reports based on a foreign study utilizing outdated information that the Indian nuclear reactors are unsafe and unreliable. Current capacity levels are much higher than the numbers given in that report. Measures to further improve the capacity and availability factors of the operating reactors in a risk-free environment are being continued.

Inconclusive testing of the well Ichapur-I

96. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarrd Question 1192 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th July, 1996 and state:

(a) whether testing of the well Ichapur-I in Oligocene oil sand was inconclusive;

(b) whether any reasons were identified by ONGC scientists for inconclusive testing of the well;

(c) whether conclusive testing and full assessment of the reservoir parameter were felt necessary at a very high level in ONGC, involving either drilling a new vertical well about 10 m. from existing well or side tracking the existing well Ichapur-I at a suitable depth; and

(d) if so, whether the same is being implemented and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The oligocene sand in Ichapur-I well flowed intermittently negligible quantity of liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons. The amount of flow was so negligible that there was no scope of commercial production.

(b) Yes, Sir. The reasons for intermittent flow were identified.

(c) and (d) As per the normal practice drilled data from exploratory wells is subjected to critical review including outside experts.

The status of exploration in Bengal basin including results of Ichapur-I is being reviewed as part of this strategy to firm up an appropriate action plan.

गुजरात में पवन ऊर्जा उत्पादन

97. श्री अनन्तराय देवशंकर दवे: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गुजरात में पवन ऊर्जा उत्पादन के लिए अब तक चुने गए स्थानों का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) गत तीन वर्ष के दौरान कितनी परियोजनाओं को स्वीकृति दी गई है; और

(ग) इस संबंध में इकाईवार और वर्षवार आवंटित की गई धनराशि तथा इसमें हुई प्रगति का ब्यौरा क्या है?

गैर पारम्परिक ऊर्जा स्रोत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा॰ एस॰ वेणुगोपालाचारी): (क) राष्ट्रीय पवन संसाधन मूल्यांकन कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत गुजरात राज्य में अब तक निम्नलिखित संभावित स्थलों की पहचान की गई है:

1. बामन बोर	9. लाम्बा
2. भंडारिया	10. लिम्बारा
3. ढ़क-I	11. मुद्रा
4. ढ़क-II	12. नवाद्रा
5. हर्षद	13. नवीबंदर
6. जमनवाड़ा	14. ओख्य
7. कल्याणपुर	15. ओख्य माधी
8. कुकमा	16. सुरजाबारी

(ख) और (ग) राज्य में अब तक 17 मेवा कुल क्षमता की प्रदर्शन पवन फार्म परियोजनाएं तथा 113 मेवा. समुच्चय क्षमता की वाणिज्यिक पवन फार्म परियोजनाएं स्थापित की गई हैं। मंत्रालय सीमित संख्या में प्रदर्शन पवन फार्म परियोजनाओं को आंशिक वित्तीय सहायता उपलब्ध कराता है। पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान राज्य से प्रदर्शन परियोजनाओं के लिए कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नही हुआ है।

Wells under million wells scheme

98. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of wells constructed in the country under the Million Wells Scheme so far. State-wise; and

(b) the break-up of those wells in Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Trible areas, State-wise?